



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroya KIRIMURA et al.

Application No.: 10/663,673

Filed: September 17, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR FORMING A THIN FILM

Attorney Docket No.: TGW-0202

Examiner: M. G. Arancibia

Art Unit: 1763

Confirmation No.: 2468

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits after filing the accompanying Request for Continued Examination filed and in response to the final Office Action dated July 11, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Claims 1, 4 and 16-23 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 17-23 are added.

**II. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

(There are no amendments to the drawings)

**III. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

(There are no amendments to the specification)